PROCEEDINGS

of

THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY.

FIRST ASSEMBLY.

FIRST SESSION.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

Wednesday, the 9th August 1933/25th Karkatakam, 1108.

The Assembly re-assembled in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall at eleven of the clock, the President presiding.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Enhancement of fees in the case of girl students.

40*. **MR. K. PADMANABHAN** (*Chirayinkil I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there has been a recent enhancement in the fees of girl pupils; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, the justification for such enhancement?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes. From the academic year 1932-33, girls have been required to pay three-fourths of the fees paid by boys in the English and Vernacular Schools, and full fees in the College classes.

(*b*) The Retrenchment Committee considered that no inducement was now required in Travancore for the education of girls, and Government accepted the Committee's recommendation in the matter.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know from the member the number of girl pupils in the English Schools at the close of Edavom or at the beginning of this academic year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That information is not available.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know from the member the percentage of literates among the females in the State?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot answer that question now.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know from the member for how long the girl pupils have been enjoying the half fee concession?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): For about ten or twelve years.

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MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether the Government are aware that there has been a decrease in the strength of the girl pupils now, soon after the enhancement of fees?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No. On the contrary, there is an increase over the previous years. But that was not immediately after the enhancement.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Was it even after the commencement of this academic year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say that.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether this policy of enhancing the fees for girl pupils will not result in a set-back to the growing female education?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): In the colleges I understand that there is an increase in the number of lady students. So, it does not seem that it is affecting the female education.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether the Government would be pleased to consider the question of restoring the old order of things so far as the girl pupils are concerned?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government considered this question already and thought that it was not necessary to do that.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know from the Government whether they would adopt a more liberal policy of revision in the matter of awarding fee concessions?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise. Your question should ask for information and not ask the policy of the Government.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): In view of the present enhancement of fees of girl pupils, may I know whether Government would consider it advisable to revise the rules in regard to the granting of concessions to girl pupils?

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know from the member whether there was not a discussion last year during the budget session about this subject?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, there was.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is the member aware that the House was in favour of the enhancement of fees?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not know.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know the amount of fees that is now collected after the enhancement of fees?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know what the answer is to part (*b*)?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Retrenchment Committee considered that no inducement was now required in

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Travancore for the education of girls, and Government accepted the Committee's recommendation in the matter.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : What is the significance of the word 'now'? Is it that no inducement is required now?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : In the earlier days inducement was required.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is it because Government think that because a sufficient proportion of girls has already become educated this fee concession may be stopped?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : No. Even if the inducement is not given, the parents are quite prepared to send their girls to schools even if they have to pay the full fees. That is the significance.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Has it not been considered that the people are now in greater difficulties to pay school fees and so such an inducement is necessary?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Still the parents pay school fees and send their girls to schools because no inducement is now required.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Has the present condition of the people been considered by Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government know their condition.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know when the Retrenchment Committee made that recommendation?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The recommendation was dated 12th March 1932.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Is it after that that this question was raised in the Legislative Council?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Oh, yes. It was after the fees were raised that this question was raised in the last budget session.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Has not the Government assured that that discussion will be borne in mind and that the question of giving concession will be considered?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Has the question been re-considered in the light of that discussion?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know from the member whether it would not affect adversely the progress of female education in the State?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : From the wer it is clear that Government thought otherwise.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member who contributes the fees with regard to the girls and boys generally?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Their parents.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether the liability for girl students is almost the same as that for boy students?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know from the member whether Government think that any concession should be given to a man who has got only daughters more than to a man who has got sons?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not see why Government should make a difference between parents of daughters and sons in this connection.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): Do the Government think that no inducement is necessary as far as Muslim girls are concerned?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No change has been made in regard to Muslim girls.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know the number of Muslim literate girls in the State?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): May I know from the member the approximate gain to Government that has been caused by this enhancement?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have not collected statistics in regard to that.

Arrest of some residents of Vakkom by the Railway Police.

41*. **MR. K. PADMANABHAN** (*Chirayinkil I*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that three subjects of His Highness the Maharaja, residents of Vakkom, have been arrested by the Railway Police and kept under custody in the Police lock-up at Anjengo for nearly a week?

MR. B. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Commissioner of Police*): Yes; but there is no information whether the persons arrested were kept under custody in the Police lock-up for nearly a week.

MR K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know for what action they were arrested?

MR. B. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Commissioner of Police*): That is for some case in the British territory.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): In the British territory or on the railway lines?

MR. B. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Commissioner of Police*): On the railway lines and these are under British jurisdiction.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know the nature of the offence committed by them?

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